

Fig. 1

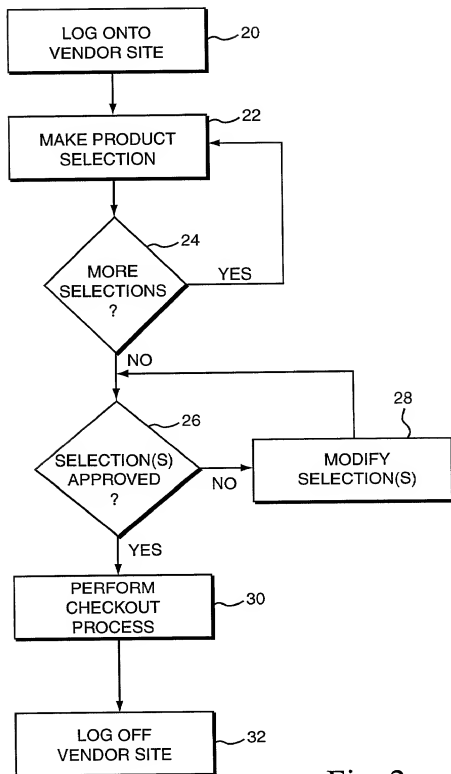


Fig. 2
(PRIOR ART)

104070-125266

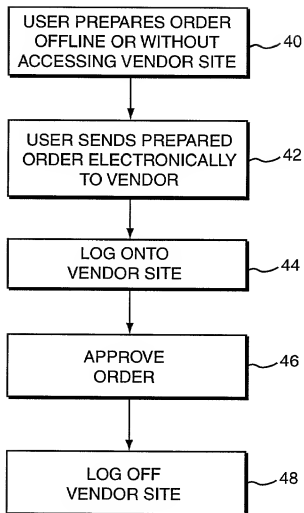


Fig. 3

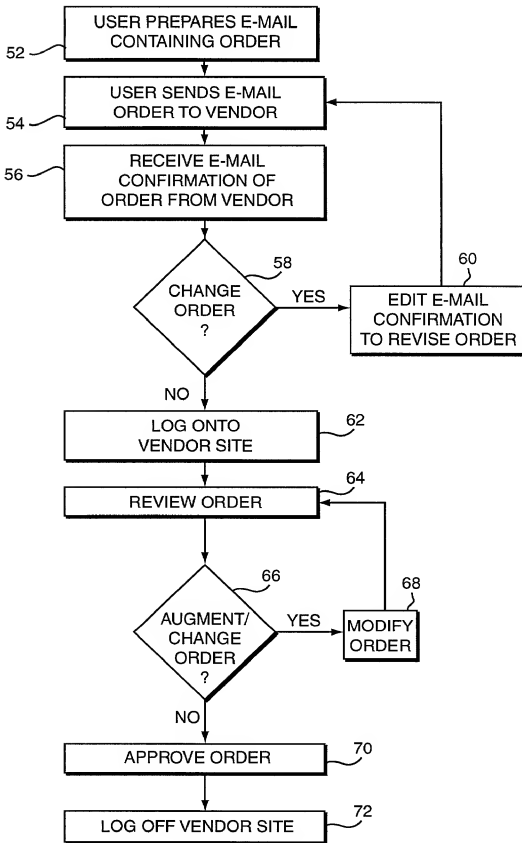


Fig. 4

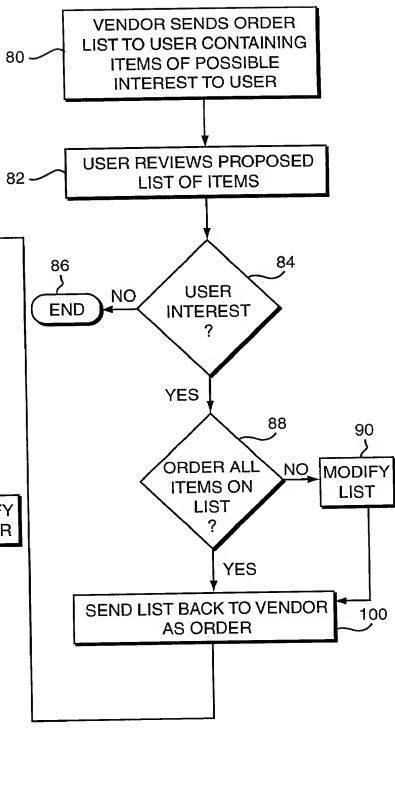


Fig. 5

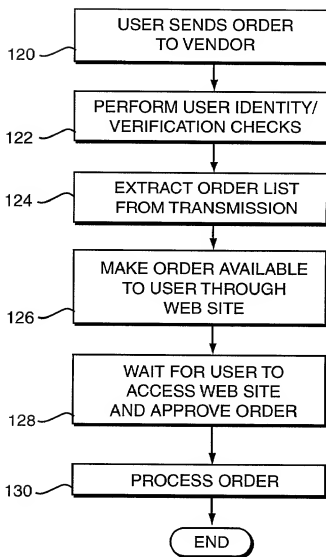


Fig. 6

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graph TD
    140[SET-UP USER ACCOUNT WITH VENDOR] --> 142[USER PREPARES FILE CONTAINING ORDER LIST]
    142 --> 144[USER E-MAILS ORDER LIST FILE TO VENDOR]
    144 --> 146[VENDOR RECEIVES E-MAIL ORDER]
    146 --> 148[AUTOMATED PROCESS ASSOCIATES E-MAIL WITH USER ACCOUNT]
    148 --> 150[BEGIN PARSING E-MAIL TO EXTRACT ORDER]
    150 --> 152[DETERMINE QUANTITY AND ITEM]
    152 --> 154{ERROR?}
    154 -- YES --> 156[FLAG ORDER ERROR FOR USER]
    154 -- NO --> 158[ADD TO USER'S OFFLINE ORDER BASKET]
    158 --> 160{MORE ITEMS?}
    160 -- YES --> 152
    160 -- NO --> 166[WAIT FOR USER TO ACCESS WEB SITE AND APPROVE OFFLINE ORDER BASKET]
    166 --> 168[PROCESS ORDER]
    156 --> 162{ORDER LIMIT REACHED?}
    162 -- YES --> 164[NOTE LIMIT ERROR FOR USER]
    162 -- NO --> 166
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The flowchart illustrates the automated order processing system. It begins with a user setting up an account with a vendor (140), followed by the user preparing an order list file (142) and emailing it to the vendor (144). The vendor receives the email order (146), and an automated process associates it with the user's account (148). The system then begins parsing the email to extract the order (150) and determines the quantity and item (152). A decision is made on whether there is an error (154). If yes, the order is flagged for error (156). If no, it is added to the user's offline order basket (158). A decision is made on whether there are more items (160). If yes, the process loops back to determine quantity and item (152). If no, the system waits for the user to access the website and approve the offline order basket (166), then processes the order (168). Additionally, a decision is made on whether the order limit has been reached (162). If yes, a limit error is noted for the user (164). If no, the process continues to wait for user approval (166).

Fig. 7

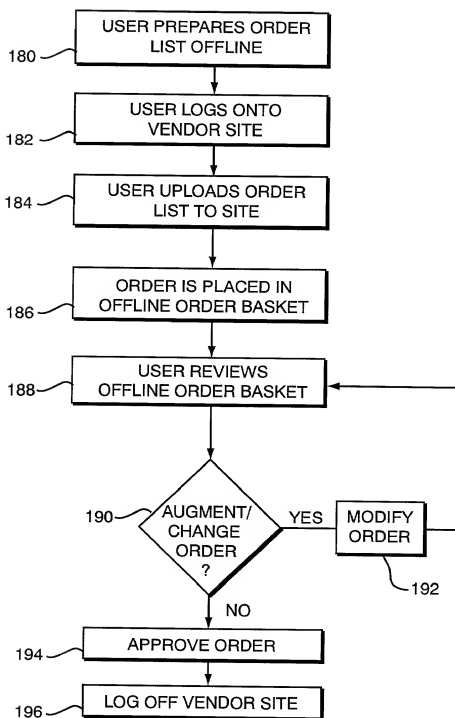


Fig. 8